

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-16 and 21-22 are currently pending after entry of the proposed amendment. Claims 1-2, 4, and 21 have been amended. Claims 17-20 have been cancelled. Entry and consideration of the proposed claims is requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner would allow Claims 9-16. The Examiner has indicated that the claims are allowable for providing that the wetability of the sheet is equivalent to a sheet of the same composition but without sizing. This is not taught or suggested by the applied references, as both teach using sizing agents in a manner to decrease absorbency.

Rejection over Ampulski

Claims 1-5, 7-8, 17-18, and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 in view of Ampulski (U.S. Patent no. 5,246,545). This rejection has been obviated by appropriate amendment. Independent claims 1, 2, 4, and 21 have been amended to include an absorbent tissue product with a wetability equivalent to an absorbent tissue product of the same composition but not having the ketene dimer sizing agent therein. As indicated by the Examiner in the Office Action dated January 19, 2006, Ampulski does not teach or disclose the claimed feature. (Office Action dated January 19, 2006, p. 6). Therefore, the claims, as amended are allowable. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Rejection over Trokhan

Claims 1, 4-8, 17-18, and 20-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Trokhan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,840,403). This rejection has been obviated by appropriate amendment. Independent claims 1, 4, and 21 have been amended to

include an absorbent tissue product with a watability equivalent to an absorbent tissue product of the same composition but not having the ketene dimer sizing agent therein. As indicated by the Examiner in the Office Action dated January 19, 2006, Trokhan does not teach or disclose the claimed feature. (Office Action dated January 19, 2006, p. 6). Therefore, the claims, as amended are allowable. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.


Rejection over Cabell

Claims 1, 18-19, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of Cabell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,908,707). This rejection has been obviated by appropriate amendment. Independent claims 1 and 21 have been amended to include an absorbent tissue product with a watability equivalent to an absorbent tissue product of the same composition but not having the ketene dimer sizing agent therein. As indicated by the Examiner in the Office Action dated January 19, 2006, Cabell does not teach or disclose the claimed feature. (Office Action dated January 19, 2006, p. 6). Therefore, the claims, as amended are allowable. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

SUMMARY

Pending Claims 1-16 and 21-22 as amended are patentable. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner grant early allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorneys for the Applicant via telephone if such communication would expedite this application.

Respectfully submitted,


Amanda M. Miller
Registration No. 52,469
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200